

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, the 30th March 1959.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Fort St. George, at half past eight of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAU) in the Chair.

I.—CONDOLENCE RESOLUTION ON THE DEATH OF SRI KALA VENKATA RAO.

MR. SPEAKER : I have to bring to the notice of the House with sorrow the death of Sri Kala Venkata Rao, a former Member of this Assembly and a former Minister in the composite State of Madras.

Sri Kala Venkata Rao died at 2 a.m. on the 28th March at Hyderabad. He was first elected to the Madras Legislative Assembly in the year 1935. He was again re-elected in 1946 and became the Revenue Minister in this State. During the period 1947-49 he piloted the well-known Zamindari Abolition Bill. From September 1951 to February 1952 he was again the Health Minister of this State.

Sri Kala Venkata Rao was one of those who took a very prominent part in the freedom struggle, suffering incarceration many times. He was in addition a Member of the Constituent Assembly, General Secretary of the Indian National Congress, and Secretary of the Andhra Pradesh Congress Committee for many, many years. He was till his death a Minister in the Andhra State. He was one of the architects of the Andhra State. He was an able administrator. He was a gifted debator with a prodigious memory and a thorough grasp of the subject with an almost encyclopaedic knowledge on many matters. In fact he had a solution for any and every difficulty which the Government encountered. Over and above all these, he was a great friend. In his death not only has Andhra lost a great statesman but India itself has lost a very great administrator. I should like the House to pass the following resolution which I place before it :—

“ This House places on record its deep sense of sorrow at the demise of Sri Kala Venkata Rao, a former Minister of the Madras State, and conveys its deep sense of sympathy to the members of the bereaved family ”.

By way of passing the resolution, I request hon. Members to stand in their places for a minute.

The resolution was carried *nem con*, all the Members of the Assembly standing for a minute.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : May I make a suggestion, Sir? The Resolution passed by this House may be communicated to the Chief Minister of the Andhra Pradesh.

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MR. SPEAKER : Yes.

As a mark of respect to the deceased Sri Kala Venkata Rao, the House is adjourned, and will meet again at 8-45 a.m.

The House then adjourned.

(The House reassembled at 8-45 a.m.)

(Mr. Speaker in the Chair.)

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS*

MR. SPEAKER : Short Notice Question No. 1000.

SRI R. SRINIVASA IYER : Sir, it is not a Short Notice Question.

MR. SPEAKER : I am sorry; it is a postponed question. The Hon. Minister for Works was not present on the day when it should have been taken up.

Vennanguzhi odai

* 1000 Q.—SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Executive Engineer Tiruchirappalli Division has received any representation, dated 20th October 1958, from the villagers of Veeranandapuram and Ramadevanallur regarding the harnessing of Vennanguzhi odai for irrigation purposes in Udaiyarpalayam taluk, Tiruchirappalli district; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI P. KAKKAN : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The scheme is under detailed investigation by the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) in consultation with the Collector of South Arcot.

Scholarships to converts to Christianity from the Harijan Welfare Fund

MR. SPEAKER : As the hon. Member Sri S. Lazar is not in his seat, question No. 1005 and the answer will be printed in the official proceedings.

* 1005 Q.—SRI S. LAZAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether scholarships from the Harijan Welfare Fund are awarded to students belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Backward Classes and Most Backward Classes converted to Christianity; and

(b) the number of such students that applied for scholarships during 1957-58 and the number of scholarships actually awarded?